Welcome to Beal Early Childhood Center

News on the Beal Front: March 7, 2016

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- 1. A note from the Principal

My first interaction with the Beal community happened in March of 2013 when I attended the Beal Family Dinner. I had recently been assigned the position and was invited to the dinner to meet the community. It was a wonderful first experience for me as I got to spend time with students, staff, and parents enjoying a meal, socializing, and vying for the raffle baskets on display. It made me realize that 'family' was represented in two ways; one being Beal families coming together for a dinner, and the other being the 'Beal Family' coming together for a dinner. As I was driving home that night, I realized how great of an opportunity this was to celebrate the friendships and personal growth that happens throughout the year. This year's Beal Family Dinner is **Thursday**, **March 24th** at Shrewsbury High School. There are more specifics in the listing below. I hope to see everyone there to celebrate the family we have grown to be throughout the course of this year!

Sincerely,

Chris Girardi

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2. Beal Family Dinner

Please join the Beal community for a night of dinner, socializing, FABULOUS class raffle baskets and raffles...all to benefit Beal School.

Date: Thursday, March 24th, 2016

Time: (Two seatings) 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. OR 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Place: Shrewsbury High School, 64 Holden Street

Cost: \$7 for age 4 and over, free for children 3 and under Dinner includes 2 slices of cheese pizza, salad, and beverage (milk or water). Additional slices of pizza are \$1 and may be ordered with ticket purchase. Raffle tickets are \$1 each, \$5 for 6 tickets, or \$10 for 15 tickets. Additional raffle tickets may be purchased at the dinner for a limited time. To Purchase Dinner and Raffle Tickets please visit www.bealpto.org or send the paper order form to school with exact cash or a check made to the Beal PTO. The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 8th.

3. Youth Art Month- Beal students recognized!

Three Beal students have been selected to have their art hung at Youth Art Month at the Worcester Art Museum. Congratulations to: Siddhidah Vutukuri- Grade 1 Shanaali Patil - Grade 1 Adam Tedesco - Kindergarten- Adam received the Director's Choice for Artistic Excellence Award! The show is free and open from March 4th-April 3rd at the Worcester Art Museum. Please see the attached flier for more information.

Youth Art Month

4. Showing of Most Likely to Succeed

Just before February vacation, Dr. Sawyer sent an invitation to our school community to attend a screening of the film, *Most Likely To Succeed*. This film is being shown at 6:30 on Wednesday, March 16 at

Shrewsbury High School. We encourage you to attend this screening and be part of an important discussion about what Shrewsbury might need to do differently to help our students adapt to what the world will demand of them in the future. The film chronicles an alternative vision of American education implemented at High Tech High in San Diego. There, student work is largely project-based and collaborative, much like today's workplaces, with students focused on solving real life problems by experimenting, failing and trying again. After the screening, there will be a discussion between the audience and a panel of experts representing business, higher education and our own school district. Again, we encourage you to come to the screening and be part of this important discussion. For more information about this event, please go to

http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/future/index.cfm

5. Beal PTO Meeting March 15th

The March PTO Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Beal gym. This will be a working session to prepare classroom baskets and organize for the Beal Family Dinner.

6. News from the nurse

This is the time of year when strep throat is particularly prevalent. Here at Beal, I have seen several scattered cases over the past few weeks. Some of you have already heard from me, if there is more than one case in your child's classroom. If you have kept your child home from school with vague symptoms, including any combination of the following: stomachache, headache, fatigue, low grade fever and a sore throat, please check in with their health care provider, letting them know about the persistence of strep throat in the school. We do find occasionally there might be a child who is "carrying" the strep germ but not showing any typical signs, such as a significant fever or severe sore throat. Here at school we are vigilant about hand washing. Please bear in mind that children can get strep throat many times in their lifetime. Unfortunately there is no immunity to it. It is my hope that we can all work together to keep illness to a minimum and keep all of our Beal friends, young and old, healthy and in school.

~Jill Wensky, Beal Nurse

508-841-8870

7. Upcoming dates and events Tuesday, March 15th- PTO Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Beal gymnasium **Thursday, March 24th- Beal Family Dinner at Shrewsbury High School** Thursday, March 31st- Parent Forum for incoming Kindergarten families- 6:30 p.m. in the Beal gym Tuesday, April 5th- Early release day Monday, April 18th- Friday, April 22nd- No School- Patriots' Day and April Vacation Tuesday, May 3rd- Early release day Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Have a great week!

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